



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Approved BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

Wednesday, February 13, 2019

6:30 PM

Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3300 Atwood Ave.

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

A meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was held at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, February 13, 2019 at Olbrich Botanical Gardens. President Leopold called the meeting to order at 6:38 PM. A quorum was present and the meeting was properly noticed.

Members Present: Ald. Maurice Cheeks; Emily Gnam; Moira Harrington; and Madelyn Leopold.

Members Excused: Ald. Samba Baldeh; Nancy Ragland; and Venus Washington.

Parks Staff Present: Eric Knepp; Kay Rutledge; Lisa Laschinger; Claire Oleksiak; Ann Freiwald; Sarah Lerner; Joanne Austin; Roberta Sladky; and Patti Jorenby.

City Staff Present: Katie Crawley, Mayor's Office and Randy Wiesner, City Engineering.

Alders: Ledell Zellers.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Harrington, seconded by Gnam, to Approve the Minutes of the January 9, 2019 Board of Park Commissioners meeting. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no registrants for Public Comment.

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

REPORT

President of the Park Commission

President Leopold reported that a Request for Proposal (RFP) has been submitted to look for organizations and/or individuals or groups interested in partnering with Parks to provide park programming. The RFP is being issued early to address concerns raised in a previous RFP process.

Superintendent of Parks

Superintendent Eric Knepp reported that the Alliant Energy Center Master Plan is being worked on by the County. Parks hopes to present an update on it in March or April. There are several items already on the future Park Commission Agenda dockets. Winter recreation has been up and down based on the unusual weather.

[54636](#)

Superintendent's February 2019 Report

Community Services Manager Claire Oleksiak presented the Community Services quarterly report.

Olbrich Botanical Gardens Director Roberta Sladky presented the Olbrich Botanical Gardens quarterly report.

Motion made by Harrington, seconded by Gnam, to Accept the Report. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[54627](#)

Report of the Subcommittee Minutes of the November 12, 2018 Habitat Stewardship Subcommittee; December 17, 2018 Parks Long Range Planning Subcommittee; October 4, 2018 Warner Park Community Recreation Center Advisory Subcommittee; and December 18, 2018 Olbrich Botanical Society.

Motion made by Gnam, seconded by Harrington, to Approve the Minutes. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion made by Cheeks, seconded by Harrington, to Approve by Consent Agenda No. 15, Legislative File No. 54603; No. 16, Legislative File No. 54604; and No. 17, Legislative File No. 54534. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[54603](#)

Request from Autism Speaks for the use of Warner Park for the Autism Speaks Walk on September 29, 2019.

Motion made by Cheeks, seconded by Harrington, to Approve. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[54604](#)

Request from Camp Randall Rowing Club Inc. for the use of Vilas Park on April 20 through April 27, 2019 for the setup, event, and take-down for the Camp Randall Invite.

Registrant Melissa Waldvogel was in support.

Motion made by Cheeks, seconded by Harrington, to Approve. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[54534](#)

Authorizing the execution of an Underground Electric Easement to Wisconsin Power and Light Company across a portion of Elver Park, located in the Town of Middleton.

Motion made by Cheeks, seconded by Harrington, to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[54638](#)

Olbrich Botanical Gardens Expansion Update

Randy Wiesner of City Engineering presented a status update on the project.

[54623](#)

2020 Proposed Olbrich Botanical Gardens Fees

Roberta Sladky and Olbrich Gardens Rental Coordinator Patti Jorenby presented an overview of the fees and provided information on their research of comparable facilities.

Motion made by Gnam, seconded by Harrington, to Approve. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[54611](#)

Request from Henry Vilas Zoo for installation of a new sign to replace the current sign located at Drake and Randall Street.

Registered speaker Katie Breneman of Henry Vilas Zoo answered questions.

Motion made by Gnam, seconded by Harrington, to Approve. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[54639](#)

Request from Freedom Skate Shop to hold three weeks of skateboard summer camp at the McPike Skatepark from 2019-2024 under the conditions of a fee modification. The Skatepark would remain open to the public during the camp.

Knepp spoke regarding the summer camp request.

Registered speaker Geoffrey Kopski of Freedom Skate Shop answered questions.

Motion made by Cheeks, seconded by Gnam, to Approve. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[54576](#)

Request from One World for the use of Warner Park for the Water Lantern Festival on August 24, 2019.

Oleksiak presented the request.

Collin Maki of Water Lantern Festival participated via conference call. He provided additional information and answered questions.

**Registered speaker Tim Nelson spoke in support.
Registered speaker Kathlean Wolf of Wild Warner spoke.**

Motion made by Cheeks, seconded by Gnam, to Approve a one-time event with the requirement that Parks staff report back to the Park Commission after the event. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[54047](#)

James Madison Park Master Plan

Knepp introduced the item and discussed the use of the recently adopted Master Plan planning process, which includes an increased level of community engagement.

Landscape Architect Sarah Lerner presented the changes to the Master Plan.

Registered speakers Ken Saiki and Tom Martin of Saiki Design, Inc answered questions.

Registered speakers Zia Brucaya and Marcus Pearson of Urban Assets answered questions.

Registered speaker Emily Reynolds spoke in opposition.

Registered speaker Dawn O'Kroley spoke in opposition.

Registered speaker John Jacobs spoke in opposition.

Registered speaker Abigail Barnes spoke in opposition.

Registered speaker Perry Sandstrom spoke in opposition.

Registered speaker David Zoppo spoke in opposition.

Registered speaker Dennis McGilligan spoke in opposition.

Motion made by Gnam, seconded by Harrington, to approve the master plan.

After discussion and with the consensus of the Board of Park Commissioners, Gnam amended her motion as follows:

Recommend approval of the master plan with the following changes:

Revise the last sentence on p. 45 as follows:

“Possible modifications to street parking adjacent to the park continues to be explored to provide alternate options to off-street parking. These will be maximized to the extent possible.

Prior to design development of parking facilities, the Parks Division will seek to minimize new surfaces in the park to the extent appropriate and in response to contemporary conditions.”

Harrington seconded. The amended motion passed by voice vote/other.

[54610](#)

Breese Stevens Field informational reports regarding the 2019 Fan Access Plan and Neighborhood Impact Plan.

Vern Stenman presented the report.

Motion made by Harrington, seconded by Gnam, to Accept the Reports. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[54513](#)

Madison Mallards informational reports regarding the 2019 Fan Access Plan, Neighborhood Impact Plan, and Responsible Alcohol Consumption Action Plan.

Vern Stenman presented the report.

Motion made by Harrington, seconded by Gnam, to Accept the Reports. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

[54526](#)

Request by Vern Stenman, Madison Mallards, for fireworks and other promotions for the 2019 Mallards Baseball season.

Vern Stenman presented the request.

Motion made by Cheeks, seconded by Gnam, to Approve. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Cheeks, seconded by Gnam, to Adjourn at 9:47 PM. Motion passed by voice vote/other.